

## Solving the Problem at Cookman

Pres. James T. Docking, Ph.D.

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**C**OOKMAN INSTITUTE has 487 students. We teach the Bible from the primary department up to the first two or three grades in the form of stories. When they get to the fourth or fifth grade we begin with the normal course, a regular prepared course. Later we take up the regular text-book. We use Dr. Hurlbut's text-book, and Dr. Steele's as a supplement, and these books are carried on through the whole course. We have also two other studies that are connected with



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### Manners and Morals

this: a study in what is called "Morals" and a study in what is called "Manners." The pupils are examined in both of these studies, and for each we have a text-book. We were very fortunate in finding a text-book published by Heinz and Noble — one on the study of morals, and the other on the study of manners. We try to bring these pupils up on higher ground and make the work as effective as any other carried on in the school.

### We have Our Own Church Catechism

In addition, we have our own church catechism — once a week — in the school, and every girl is expected to read and answer the questions, even if she does not memorize them. We have the study of the catechism, not the shorter but the longer, — the Arminian catechism, — and it seems to suit the boys and girls. We also make a special point of memorizing the Bible. We have an association where every one agrees to memorize one verse every day in the week, and we begin before breakfast as we are all standing and repeat the verses that we have learned, and keep this up every day. That helps us to keep it in our minds, and when it comes to Saturday we take up the question of special study in the Normal School, and we have everything in the line of Bible study that we can now crowd in. I should be happy to welcome any person or any agency that will do the people good in this way, and that is what is needed, but I hardly

can see how anything more can be put in than what we already have in most of our own courses.

### Reaching Those Outside the School

I take it for granted that one of the great objects of this movement is not to reach the schools, but to reach those outside the schools, — and to have a larger circle than the schools. We have already ample in the schools, so we will have to reach those outside in some way. I am inclined to think that we are not going to do that so successfully by having a regular professor. At first I did, and I told Mr. Hartshorn so. I believe that we are the men that can do these things better than anybody else. I can see a thousand objections that might come up in my school and your schools. If the society is going to do anything in that line, it strikes me that possibly it might be the best thing to get a

### "The Mother Ought to be the Teacher"

paid teacher, but I really think that the mother ought to be the teacher. That would be better than to have a man sent. Most schools like to have a chance to say where the teacher shall come from. If the association is going to pick up a teacher and send him to us, he might not be the man for the place. I understand that the proposition is thought to be a good one. I believe that every one who is here is willing to welcome anything that is going to better and interest our young people in the Bible and its truth. We are heart and hand and soul in this work.

### Vice-President Fairbanks at Cookman

Vice-President Fairbanks visited Cookman Institute recently. When he went away he said: "You are solving a problem here that we can't solve in Washington. This problem is never to be solved in the legislative halls; if ever the Southern problem is to be solved, these institutions, and others of its kind, are to do the business."

### An Ignorant Negro is a Dangerous Man

A colored man, an uneducated, ignorant Negro, is a dangerous man anywhere, but he is especially dangerous if he is a colored man and in the South. Cookman Institute has ever kept before the people these two ideas, — the moral transformation of their lives, and the giving of themselves to God. I am glad to tell you that we have never closed the doors against one man, nor have we had one man expelled.

I am here as a learner, and I am ready and willing to do anything and welcome anybody who could make better boys and girls out of the youth of the South.